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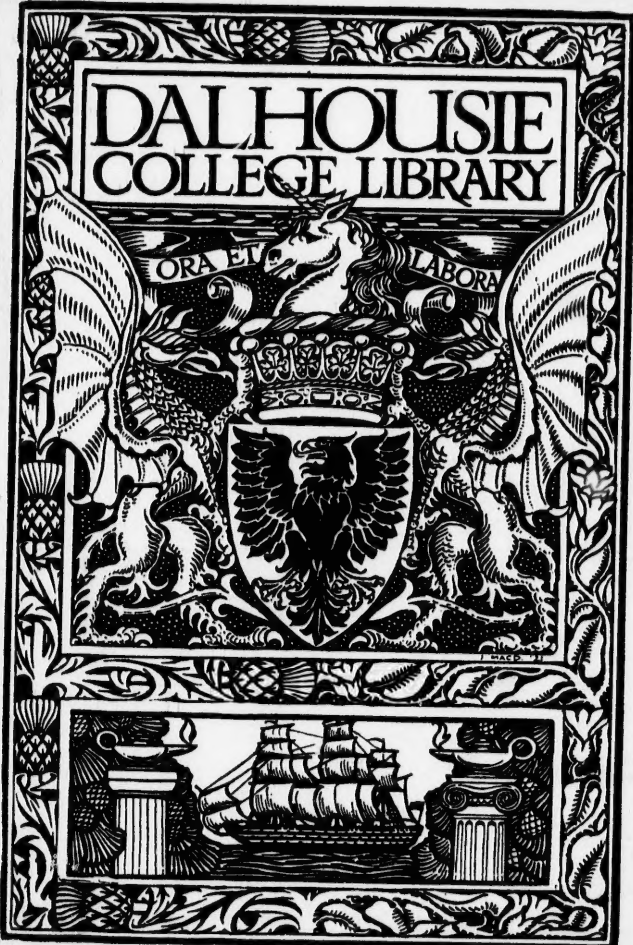
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PRAYERS

USED BY HIS MAJESTY

KING WILLIAM III.

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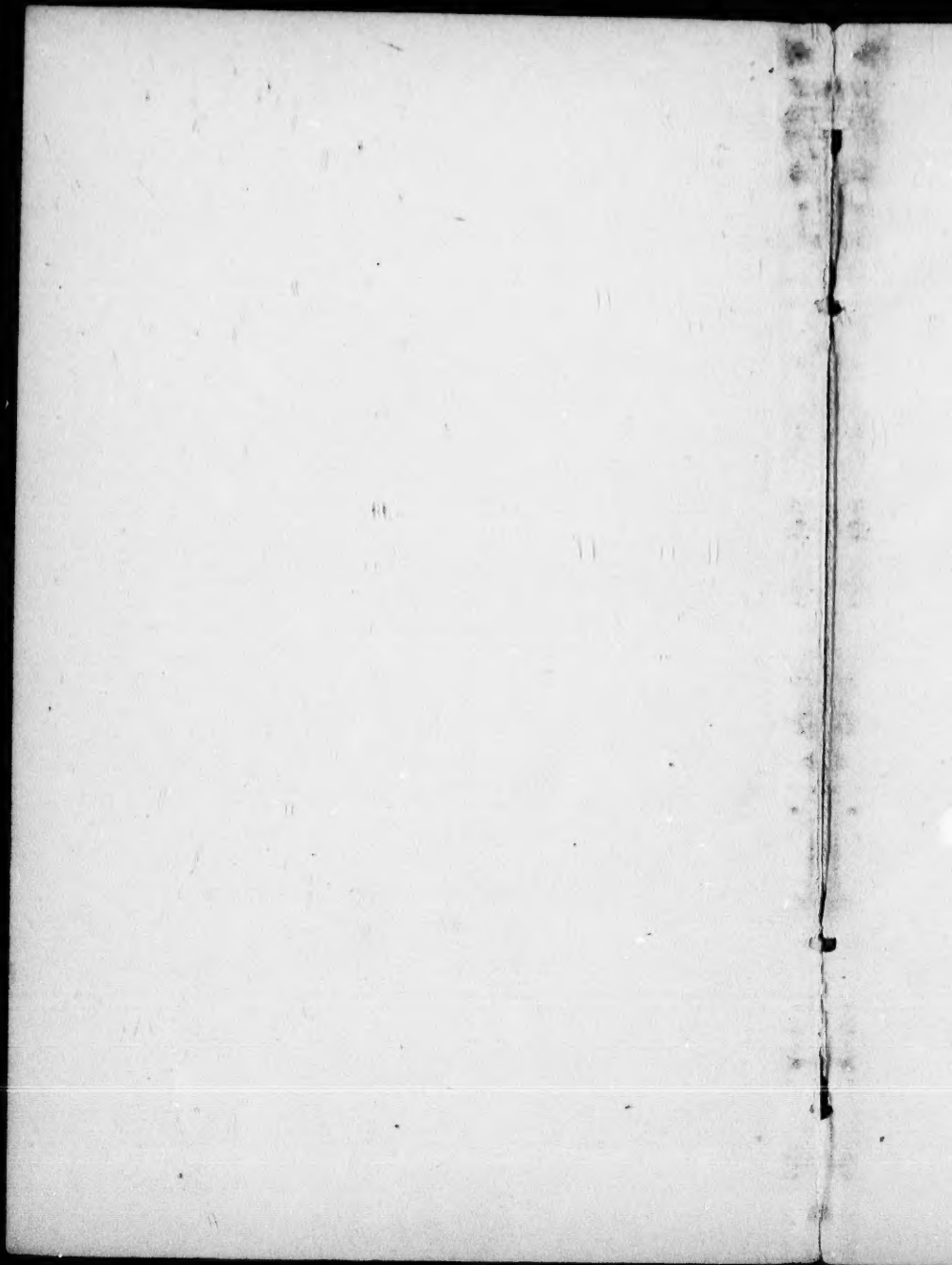


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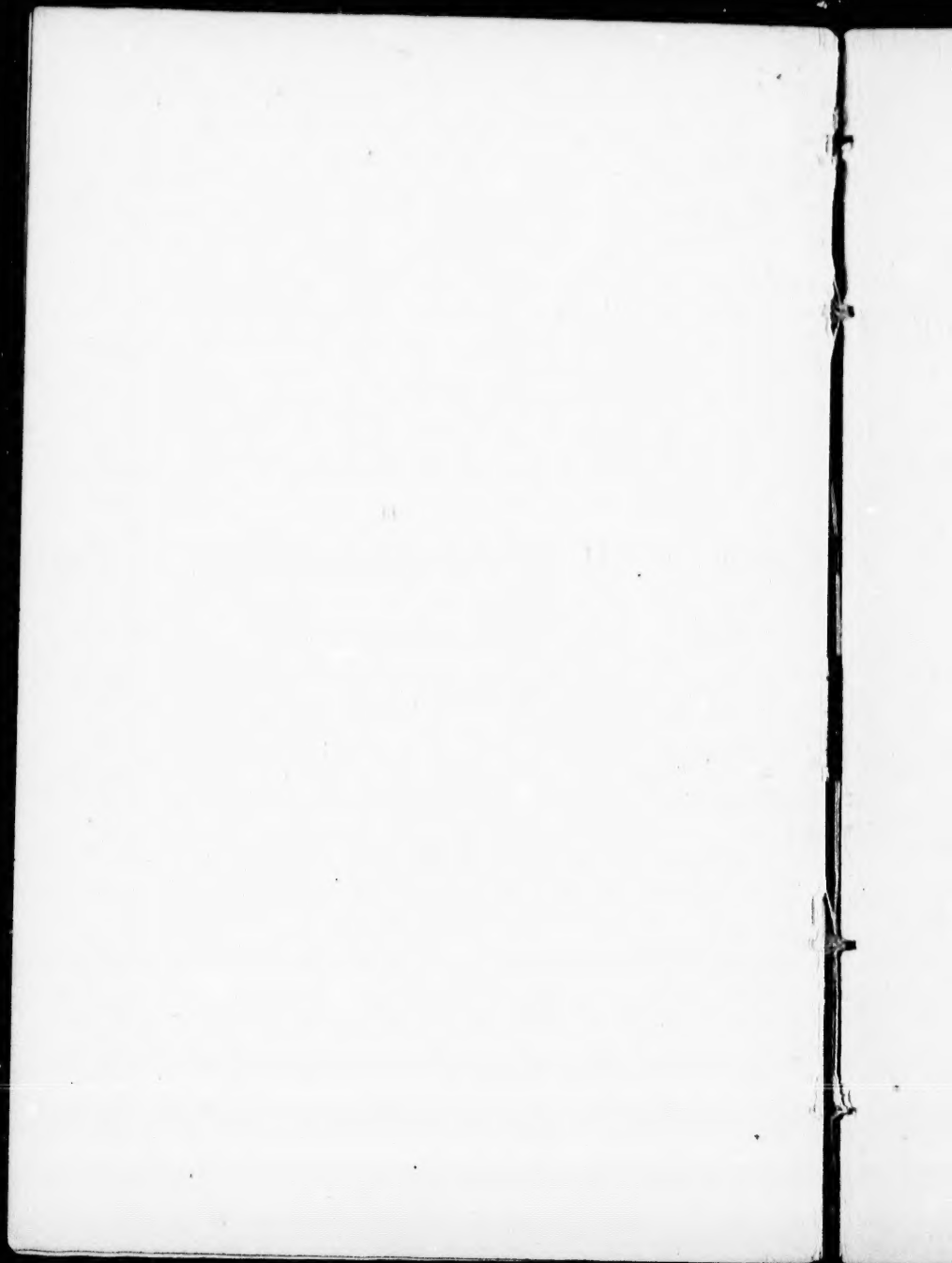
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A FORM OF
P R A Y E R S
USED BY HIS MAJESTY
KING WILLIAM III.

WHEN HE RECEIVED THE HOLY SACRAMENT,
AND ON OTHER OCCASIONS.

EDITED BY
THE REV. JOHN CARRY, B.D.,
INCUMBENT OF TULLAMORE AND THE GORE OF TORONTO.

First Canadian from the Fourth London Edition of 1704.

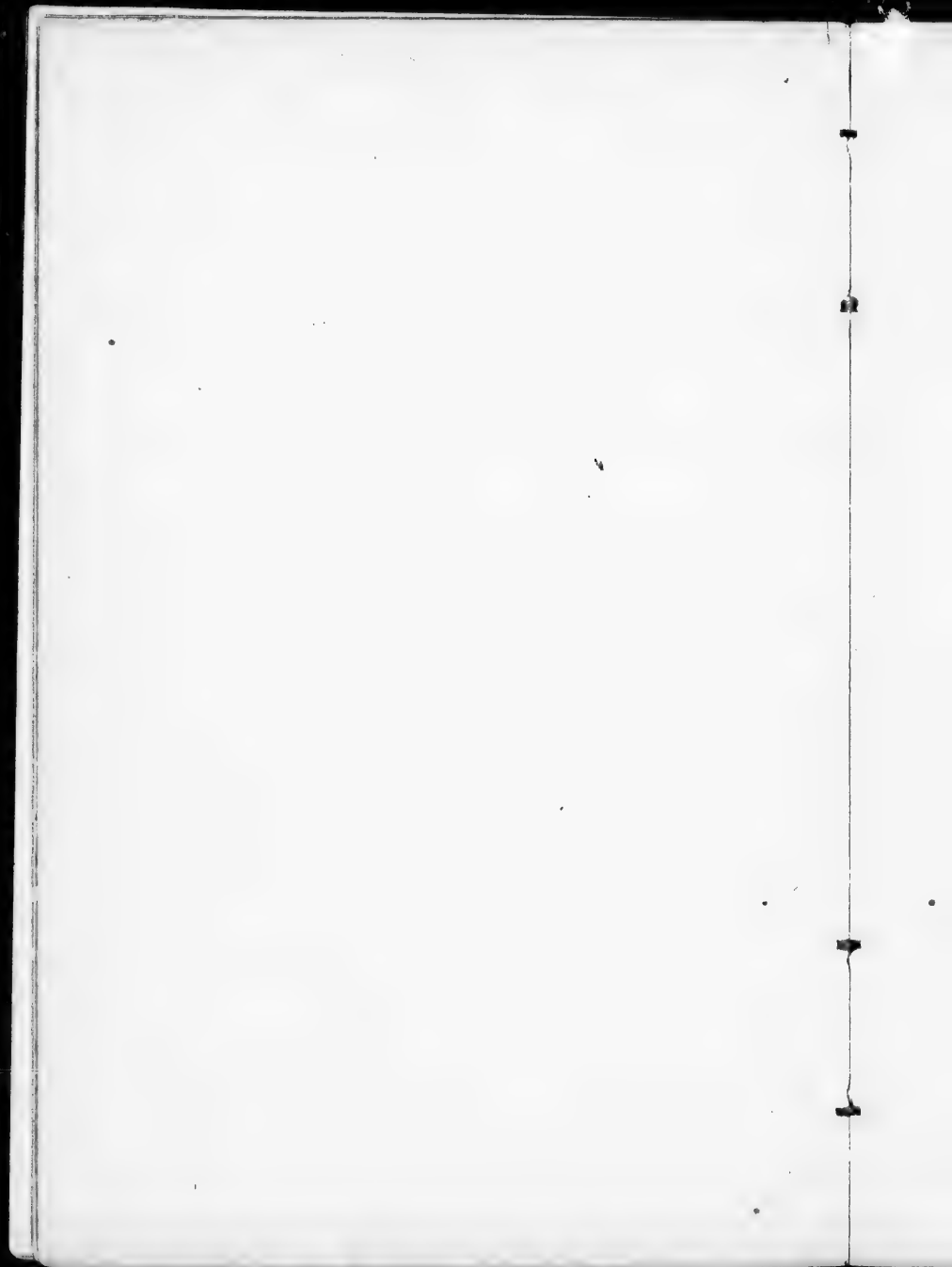
TORONTO:
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1864.

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UNIVERSITY PRESS:
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CAMBRIDGE.

To
THE MEMBERS OF
THE LOYAL ORANGE ASSOCIATION,
WHERESOEVER DISPERSED THROUGHOUT
THE BRITISH EMPIRE,
THIS VENERABLE MEMORIAL
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED
BY
THE CANADIAN EDITOR.

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PREFACE

TO CANADIAN EDITION.

IT is not without a feeling of satisfaction and thankfulness that the Editor has been instrumental in rescuing from long oblivion this little Manual, and presenting it not only to the Orange Order, but to the Church of England and the general Protestant public.

The ORANGE ASSOCIATION hold the memory of King William as "glorious, pious, and immortal." The most envious cannot refuse him a distinguished place in the Temple of Fame. No historian denies him the renown of heroism, of military glory and success. His sagacity and statesmanlike abilities are readily conceded. When, then, all these high endowments and glorious successes became, under Providence, the means of conferring most precious national blessings, — we trust, forever, — is not the *memory* of the instrument rightly held in *affectionate respect* — or "pious"? But this Manual of Prayer will henceforth be to Orangemen an additional argument for their favorite Sentiment, — for honoring their hero's memory, not only for his great achieve-

ments, but for his *piety*. They will see here, as the original Editor has said, "the high regard which his Majesty had for the duties of the Christian Religion." They will see in him whom they delight to honor, not only the sagacious statesman, the brave soldier, the welcome deliverer, but the earnest and conscientious Christian, punctual and careful in his closet, regular and devout at the Holy Sacrament; not only the temporal Head, but the dutiful Son of the Church.

His traducers, indeed, can and do remind us of the irregularities of his early life; but what better proof of the conversion of the heart to God than these incessant prayers in private, which no eye or ear but God's was expected to be privy to? In them we can trace penitential abasement, charity to enemies, kindness to friends, and a tender regard to the welfare of the Church of God.

This latter point may well make these sacred Memorials most interesting to THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, of which he was once the anointed Defender. He ever remembered her before God, and prayed for the peace of Jerusalem. And it should not be forgotten, that those Bishops who were appointed during his reign were true-hearted sons of the Church of England, able and willing to write or to act in her just defence. Indeed, a good proportion of them are among the most honored names that have been transmitted for the admiration and gratitude of posterity.

Though of foreign birth, and brought up in an

other Church, he gave sufficient proof of the love and veneration in which he held the Church of England. And with the heart of a true son he knelt at her Altars, and there sought the grace that enabled him to discharge his high office of Defender of the Faith, and Protector of endangered Liberty.

Nor can the GENERAL PROTESTANT PUBLIC be unconcerned in the Name and Remembrance of one who was conspicuous for his toleration, in an age when that virtue was ill understood. He devoted himself to the defence of Protestantism in Europe, and he lent the full weight of his influence in England to the cause of religious liberty, as far as was consistent with the just interests of the National Church. They will here see the secret fountain whence flowed his love of peace, and his praiseworthy efforts to secure at once freedom of conscience and the unity of Christians.

It is a matter of surprise that a relic which must prove interesting to a large public could have lain hidden so long. Even Lord Macaulay, who was so ardent an admirer of his Majesty, and so wonderfully well versed in the obscure and now forgotten paths of the literature of that day, seems to have been entirely unacquainted with it; for, otherwise, he would have assuredly brought into his gorgeous page an adjunct which could not fail to strike, and which would adorn so fairly the Royal Personage who there sits enthroned.

For my knowledge and possession of this volume I beg to make my most grateful acknowledgments to

the Reverend Thomas Lathbury of Bristol, England, whose acquaintance with the by-ways of English literature in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries seems unrivalled. It was in reading his learned and interesting book, entitled, "A History of the Book of Common Prayer, and other books of authority in the Church of England," that I first became aware of the existence of the present volume,—a pleasing proof, starting out of the darkness of the distant past, of the piety of a great historic character.

It immediately occurred to me that it would be a high gratification to vast multitudes to have this volume brought within their reach. But the difficulty of procuring a copy seemed almost insuperable, through the time it has been out of print, and the utter forgetfulness into which it had fallen. Happily, it occurred to me to try the good nature of Mr. Lathbury, who, on my request for the loan of his copy, most obligingly and cheerfully forwarded the precious volume.

It may interest the reader to know that this copy is well-thumbed, worn, and torn in many places by much use, but everywhere pasted and restored with the utmost care and neatness.

This Reprint is conformed to the English original as nearly as possible.

I have nothing more to add, than to express a fervent hope that the admirers of the Hero may hereby learn to imitate the Christian.

JOHN CARRY.

A FORM of
PRAYERS

Used by his late Majesty

K. William III.

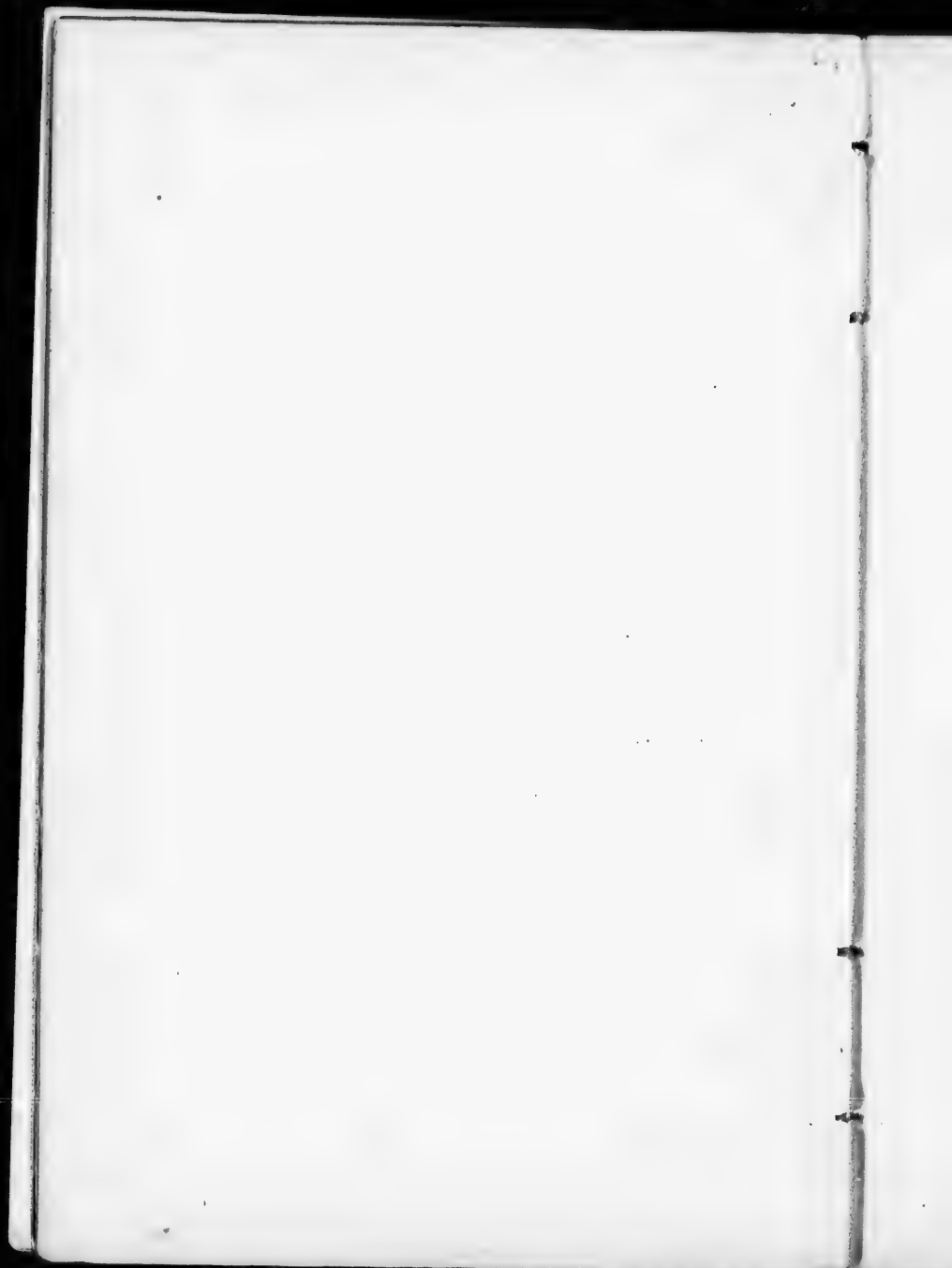
When he Receiv'd the
Holy Sacrament,
And on Other Occasions.

With a Preface by the Rt. Reverend
JOHN Lord Bishop of Norwich.

The Fourth Edition.

To which is added,
A PRAYER his Majesty made Use of
after his Fall from his Horse.

L O N D O N,
Printed for *J. Barnes*, at the *Crown* in
the *Pell-Mell*; and Sold by *J. Nutt*
near *Stationers-Hall*, 1704.



THE PREFACE.

THESE Prayers are faithfully Printed without the least Variation from the Original Papers, which his Majesty constantly used.

They are written in a plain, serious, and unaffected style, proper to excite true Devotion, and to make Men pray with Understanding.

Although they were admirably suited to the Circumstances of his Majesty's Royal Condition, yet the Matter of them is chosen with so much Judgment, that they in a manner comprehend all the things for which a Christian Man ought to Pray; and may afford great Assistance to virtuously disposed Persons of all Ranks and Qualities in their Religious Exercises.

By their being made public, Men will see the high regard his Majesty had for the Duties of the Christian Religion, and how well he employed himself at the Lord's Table; where his Behaviour was ever most Grave, Humble, and Devout.

As often as his Majesty received the Sacrament, which he never failed to do four times in the Year, he always set apart two or three Days to prepare himself for it.

When he was in the Camp, if urgent Affairs put him by the Seasons he usually allotted for his Preparation; he ordered the Sacrament to be deferred till the Lord's Day following, that he might have Opportunity to fit himself worthily to partake of those Holy Mysteries.

There is also very good Reason to believe, that he made use of some of these Prayers, every Morning and Evening, when he retired into his Closet to Pray; in which daily Devotions, they, who had the honour to attend his Person, well know that he was most Constant and Regular.

It is therefore hoped that some Right hereby will be done to the Sacred Memory of that excellent Prince, who was the Glorious Instrument of preserving the pure Religion, the Antient Laws, and known Liberties of this Kingdom.

Which Invaluable Blessings he hath also perpetuated to us by establishing the Succession of the Crown in the Protestant Line, and leaving the immediate Possession thereof to Her Present Majesty, our most Gracious Sovereign QUEEN ANNE.

Whose Piety, Wisdom, Goodness, and Mercy are Conspicuous to the whole World, and especially to all her Subjects and Allies, who are continually receiving the large and solid Benefits of them.

And as a farther demonstration of her most affectionate and tender Care for the good of all that Minister in Holy Things; She hath begun a new Year of Her Life, with declaring Her generous Intention, to give all Her Revenue arising from the first Fruits and Tenths, to increase the mean and insufficient Maintenance of the Clergy, in divers Parts of the Kingdom: by which charitable and Gracious Act She will highly adorn the Reformation made by Her Ancestors, and surpass them all in her Munificence, and Royal Bounty to the Church of ENGLAND.

May it please God to preserve Her most Sacred Person and Government; to protect Her against all open Violence, and secret Conspiracy; and long to continue Her to be, as she most eminently is, the Great Defender of our excellent Constitution both in Church and State; the firm Support of the Protestant Religion; and the Guardian of the Liberty of EUROPE.

J. NORWICH.

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A Form of
PRAYERS, &c.

JOHN ix. 4.

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no one can work.

COLOSS. iii. 17.

Whatsoever ye do in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

A Prayer to God, that he would be pleased to assist and accept my Preparation to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

I Prostrate myself before Thee, my most gracious God and merciful Father, in an humble Acknowledgement of my Unworthiness and Insufficiency of myself, for any thing that is good. I am sensible that without Thee I can do nothing ; and therefore do humbly implore thy gracious Assistance, and Acceptance of my endeavour to prepare myself for the worthy receiving of the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of thy dear Son.

Stir up, I beseech thee, such pious Affections and Dispositions in my Soul, and fill my Mind with such holy Meditations as are suitable to this Occasion. Grant me such a sense of my Sins, and of the Sufferings of my Blessed Saviour for them, as may affect my Heart with a deep Sorrow for my Sins, and an eternal Hatred and displeasure against them, and may effectually engage me to Love, and Live to him who died for me, Jesus Christ my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

*A Penitent Confession of Sins, with an humble
Supplication for Mercy and Forgiveness.*

MOST gracious and merciful God, who art of purer Eyes than to behold Iniquity: I desire to humble my Soul before Thee, in a deep sense of my own Vileness and Unworthiness, by reason of the many Sins and Provocations, which I have been guilty of against thy divine Majesty; by Thought, Word, and Deed. Forgive, O Lord, all the Sins and Follies of my Life, which have been many and great; and which I do now with shame and sorrow confess and bewail before thee, for thy mercy's sake in Jesus Christ. Pardon, O my God, my manifold Neglects and Omissions, and slight and careless performance of the Duties of Religion, without due Affection and Attention of Mind; that I have not served thee with that purity of Intention, with that sincerity of Heart, with that fervency of Spirit, with that Zeal for thy Glory, with that care, and diligence, and constancy that I ought.

Forgive, O Lord, my Sins of Ignorance and Infirmary, which are more than can be numbered; but especially, all my Wilful Transgressions of thy Holy and Righteous Laws; the Impurity of my Heart and Thoughts, all irregular Appetites and Passions, and every

sinful and wicked Practice, of what nature or kind soever. More particularly, I do with great shame and Confusion of Face, confess and lament before thee, from whom nothing is hid, that I have grievously offended.* These my Transgressions, with many more, which I cannot remember and reckon up before thee, are all in thy sight, O Lord, and my most secret Sins in the light of thy Countenance. When I look back upon the Errors and Miscarriages of my past Life, and consider with myself what I have done, and what I deserve at thy Hands, my Flesh trembleth for fear of Thee, and I am afraid of thy Judgments. I am ashamed, O my God, and blush to lift up mine Eyes to thee, my God. Lord, I am vile ; what shall I answer Thee ? I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.

Make me deeply sensible of the great Evil of my Sins, and work in me a hearty Contrition for them ; and let the sense of them be more grievous to me than of any other Evil whatsoever. Have mercy upon me, O Lord, and according to thy tender mercies forgive all my Transgressions, for the Sake of my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

* Here [as he was used to] mention Particulars.

A Prayer for the Grace and Assistance of God's Holy Spirit, to enable me to resolve and to do better for the future.

AND now, O Lord, in Confidence of thy great Mercy and Goodness to all that are truly Penitent, and sincerely resolve to do better, I most humbly implore the Grace and Assistance of thy Holy Spirit, to enable me to become every Day better, and to reform whatever has been amiss in the Temper and Disposition of my Mind, or in any of the Actions of my Life. Grant me the Wisdom and Understanding to know my Duty, and the Heart and Will to do it. Vouchsafe to me the Continual Presence and Direction, the Assistance and Comforts of thy Holy Spirit; whereby I may be disposed and enabled to do thy Will with delight and cheerfulness, and with patience and contentedness to submit to it in all things. Endue me, O Lord, with the true Fear and Love of Thee, and with a prudent Zeal for thy Glory. Encrease in me more and more the Graces of Charity and Meekness, of Truth, and Justice, and Fidelity; give me Humility and Patience, and a firmness of Spirit to bear every Condition with constancy and equality of Mind.

Enable me, O Lord, by thy Grace, to govern all my Appetites, and every inordinate Lust and

Passion, by Temperance and Purity, and Meekness of Wisdom ; setting Thee always before me, that I may not sin against Thee. Create in me a clean Heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Purify my Soul from all evil Thoughts and Inclinations, from all bad Intentions and Designs. Deliver me, O Lord, from Pride and Vanity, from immoderate Self-Love, and obstinate Self-Will, and from all Malice and Envy, and ill-Will towards any.

Make me to Love Thee, as I ought, above all things ; and let the Interest of thy Honour and Glory be ever dearer to me than my own Will, or Reputation, or any Temporal Advantage whatsoever.

Subdue in me the evil Spirit of Wrath and Revenge ; and dispose my Heart patiently to bear Reproaches and Wrongs, and to be ready not only to forgive, but to return good for evil.

Assist me, O Lord, more especially in the faithful and conscientious Discharge of the Duties of that [high] Station in which thou hast placed me : And grant that I may employ all that Power and Opportunities [and Authority] which thou hast [invested] given me [with] for thy Glory and the publick Good ; [that I may Rule over Men in thy Fear, with Justice and Equity, ever studying and endeavouring the good of the People committed to my Charge,

and as much as in me Lies the Peace and Prosperity, the Welfare and Happiness of Mankind.]

Confirm me, O my God, in all these holy Resolutions; and do Thou keep it for ever in the purpose of my Heart, to perform them to the utmost of my Power: All which I humbly beg. for thy Mercies' sake in Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

An humble Intercession with God for all Mankind; for the whole Christian Church, and more particularly for that part of it which is planted in these Kingdoms; [for the Queen, and for all under our Government;] for my Relations and Friends; for my Native Country, [and for my Allies, &c.].

I Thine unworthy Servant desire likewise humbly to intercede with Thee, the God and Father of All, for all Mankind: that thou wouldest be pleased to have Compassion upon their Blindness and Ignorance, their gross Errours, and their wicked Practices. Send forth, I beseech thee, thy Light and thy Truth, to scatter that thick Darkness which covers the Nations, and overspreads so great a part of the World; that thy Way may be known upon Earth, and thy Saving Health among all Nations.

Bless and preserve thy Church dispersed over the face of the Earth; restore to it Unity and Concord, in the acknowledgment of the Truth, and the practice of Righteousness and Goodness. Remove out of it all Errors and Corruptions, all Offences and Scandals, all Divisions and Dissensions, all Tyranny and Usurpation over the Minds and Consciences of Men; that they who profess the same Faith, may no longer persecute and destroy one another, but may be kind and tender-hearted one towards another, as it becomes Brethren, and those that are heirs of the same Common Salvation.

I beseech Thee, more especially, to be merciful to that part of thy Church, which Thou hast planted in these Kingdoms. Pity the distractions, and heal the Breaches of it. Purge out of it all Impiety and Profaneness; take away those mistakes, and mutual Exasperations, which cause so much Distemper and Disturbance; and restore to it Piety and Virtue, Peace and Charity. Endue the Pastors and Governors of it, with the Spirit of True Religion and Goodness, and make them Zealous and Diligent to promote it in those who are under their Instruction and Care. Give them Wisdom to discern the best and most proper Means of composing the Differences of this miserably Divided Church, the Heart to endeavour it, and

by thy blessing upon their Endeavours the happiness to effect it. And I beseech Thee, O Lord, of thy great Goodness, to bless all my Relations and Friends; [particularly my Dearest Consort the Queen.] I acknowledge Thy special Providence in bringing Us together, and thereby giving me the Opportunity and the Means of being Instrumental in rescuing these Nations from Misery and Ruin. And as Thou hast been pleased to unite us in the nearest Relation; so I beseech Thee to preserve and continue that entire Love and Affection between us, which becomes that Relation. And if it be Thy Blessed Will, and Thou seest it best for us, bless us with Children to sit upon the Throne of these Kingdoms, and to be a Blessing to them for many Generations.

Be merciful also, O God, to my Native Country; let true Religion and Righteousness be Established amongst them, as the surest Foundation of their Peace and Prosperity.

[Bless all my Allies: O Righteous Lord, that lovest Righteousness, and hatest Falsehood and Wrong, do Thou stand by us in the Maintenance of that Just Cause in which We are Engaged, and bless us with Union and good Success.]

And in thy good time, O Lord, restore Peace to Christendom; put an end to those bloody

Wars and Desolations, wherewith it hath been so long and so miserably harrassed: And, when Thou seest it best and fittest, manifest Thy glorious Justice in giving check to that Ambition and Cruelty, which hath been the Cause of so great Calamities to so great a part of the World. O God, to whom Vengeance belongeth, shew Thyself: Lift up thyself Thou Judge of the Earth, and render a reward to the Proud: Scatter the People that delight in War: Let the Wickedness of the Wicked come to an end, but do Thou establish the Just.

Be merciful, O God, to all that are in affliction or distress; that labour under Poverty, or Persecution, or Captivity; under bodily Pains and Diseases, or under Temptation and Trouble of Mind: Be pleased to support and comfort them, and in Thy due time to deliver them, according to thy great Mercy.

Forgive, I beseech Thee, most merciful Father, to all mine Enemies all their Malice and ill Will towards me; and give them Repentance and better Minds: which I heartily beg of Thee for them, as I myself hope for Mercy and Forgiveness at Thy Hands, through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ my most merciful God and Saviour. *Amen.*

*A Thankful Acknowledgement of the Mercies of
God both Temporal and Spiritual; and above
all for the Redemption of Mankind by the
Humiliation and Sufferings of his Son in our
Nature.*

Blessed and glorious Lord God, the Great
Creator, and Preserver, and Governor of
all things; my Saviour and Deliverer, and con-
tinual Benefactor; I acknowledge, I admire, I
adore Thy infinite Excellences and Perfections,
and Let all the Creatures in Heaven and Earth
say, *Amen.*

I Render thanks to Thee, most Gracious God,
for innumerable Favours conferred upon me
thy poor creature, and most unworthy; For my
Being, for my Reason, and for all other En-
dowments and Faculties of Soul and Body;
for thy continual care and watchful Providence
over me from the beginning of my Life, and
through the whole Course of it: For all the
happy Circumstances of my Birth and Educa-
tion: For the pious Care of my Dear Parents,
[and ever-Honoured Mother and Grandmother,]
and of all others who had the charge of me in
my tender Years: For thy unwearied Patience

towards me, after so many and so great Provocations: And for thy merciful [and wonderful] Preservation of me from innumerable Dangers [and Deaths] to which I have been exposed [all my Life]. I will still hope in thy Goodness, O Lord, who hast been my Trust from my Youth; by Thee have I been holden up from the Womb, my Praise shall be continually of Thee. Above all, I adore Thy tender mercy and Compassion to me, and all Mankind, in sending Thy only Son into the World to redeem us from Sin and Misery, and by suffering in our Nature, and dying in our Stead, to purchase for us Eternal Life. I bless Thee for the Light of the Glorious Gospel, for the Knowledge and Sense of my Duty towards Thee; for delivering me from Temptations too hard for me, and supporting me under many: For the Direction and Assistance, and Comforts of Thy Holy Spirit: For restraining me by Thy Grace, and reclaiming me from the Ways of Sin and Vanity: And for all the gracious Communications of Thy Goodness, whereby Thou hast inclined my Heart to love and fear Thee, and enabled me in any measure to do Thy Will.

For these, and all other Thy Blessings and Favours to me, which are more than can be numbered; I render unto Thee, most Gracious God, all possible Praise and Thanks by Jesus Christ, my Blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer to God to prepare my Heart for the worthy receiving of the Holy Sacrament, and to make me partaker of the Blessings and Benefits of it.

I Come to Thee, O my Lord God, from whom are the Preparation of the Heart, and the good disposition of our Minds, for Thy Worship and Service. Fit me, O Lord, by hearty Contrition for my Sins, and a sincere Resolution of a better Course, to approach Thy Altar. Accept of the Expiation which Thy Son hath made of all my Transgressions by the Sacrifice of Himself, as of a Lamb without Spot and Blemish. Let the remembrance of my Sins, and of his bitter Sufferings for them, pierce my very Heart, and engage me for ever to love and serve him, who laid down his Life for me. Cleanse me, O Lord, from all filthiness of Flesh and Spirit, that I may be a meet Guest for Thy Holy Table, and a real partaker of those Blessings and Benefits which are represented in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Strengthen, O God, all good Resolutions in me. Enable me by Thy Grace faithfully to perform the Conditions of that Covenant, which I made in Baptism, and intend to renew in the Holy Sacrament, by dedicating myself entirely, and for ever, to the service of my Blessed Redeemer,

who hath loved me, and washed me from my
Sins in his own Blood. To him be all Honor
and Glory, Thanksgiving and Praise, Love and
Obedience for ever and ever. *Amen.*

SHORT MEDITATIONS AND EJACULATIONS AT THE COMMUNION.

Before the Minister begin the Service.

I Lift up my Soul to Thee, my God, Humbly imploring Thy Blessing upon me, and Gracious Assistance of me in the Holy Action I am now about. Forgive my want of due preparation, and Accept of my sincere Desire to perform an acceptable Service to Thee, through Jesus Christ.

Before the Receiving of the Bread.

Lord, I am not worthy of the Crumbs which fall from Thy Table.

After the Receiving of it.

Greater love than this hath no Man, that a Man lay down his Life for his Friend.

Herein hath God commended his Love to us, that whilst we were Enemies, he gave his Son to die for us.

Before Receiving of the Cup.

What shall I render to the Lord for all his Benefits? I will take the Cup of Salvation, and I will bless the Name of the Lord.

After the Receiving of it.

Blessed be God for his unspeakable Gift, his dearly Beloved Son Jesus Christ, in whom we have Redemption through his Blood, even the forgiveness of Sins.

After the Conclusion of the whole Action.

Bless the Lord, O My Soul, and all that is within me bless his Holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and forget not all his Benefits; Who forgiveth all thine Iniquities, and healeth all thy Diseases: Who redeemeth thy Life from destruction; and crowneth thee with loving Kindness, and tender Mercies: Who satisfieth thy Mouth with good things. Bless the Lord, O my Soul.

A Prayer to be used in private afterwards.

I praise and magnify thy Great and glorious Name, O Lord my God, for the blessed Opportunity afforded to me this day, of Commemorating Thy infinite Goodness and Mercy to me and all Mankind, in sending thy only Son into the World to take our Nature upon him, to submit to the Infirmities and Miseries of it, to live amongst us, and to Die for us: And to preserve the Memory of this great Love and Goodness of Thine to us for ever in our Hearts, that

Thou hast been pleased to appoint the Blessed Sacrament for a Solemn Remembrance of it. Grant, O Lord, that I may faithfully keep and perform that Holy Covenant which I have this Day so solemnly renewed and confirmed in thy Presence, and at thy Table. Let it be an eternal Obligation upon me of perpetual Love and Obedience to Thee. Let nothing seem hard for me to do, or grievous for me to suffer for thy sake, who, whilst I was a Sinner, and an Enemy to Thee, lovedst me at such a rate as never any man did his Friend. Grant that by this Sacrament there may be Conveyed to my Soul new Spiritual Life and Strength, and such a measure of thy Grace and Assistance as may enable me to a greater care of my Duty for the future: That I may henceforth live as becomes the Redeemed of the Lord; even to him who died for my Sins, and rose again for my Justification, and is now Sate down on the right hand of the Throne of God, to make Intercession for me: In His Holy Name and Words, I conclude my imperfect Prayers.

Our Father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive them that have [sic]

*trespassed against us. And lead us not into
Temptation, but deliver us from Evil: For thine
is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for
ever. Amen.*

*A Prayer his Majesty made use of after his fall
from his Horse.*

O Almighty God, the Creator and Preserver of Men, from Everlasting to Everlasting thou art God; but time and chance happen to all things under the Sun; and in the midst of Safety we are in Danger.

Yet, O Blessed God, it is still in Thee that we Live, and Move, and have our being; and our Times and Lives are in Thy Hands. A Sparrow falls not to the Ground without thy leave and direction; much less are the Persons of Kings shut out from thy Rule and Government. I desire to adore thee in these depths of thy over-ruling Providence, which I am not able to Fathom. I believe that Affliction springs not out of the Dust: I humbly submit to thy Fatherly Discipline; for thou Correctest in Mercy, and for my Profit. Thou, O Lord, hast exercised me from my Youth up until now with Troubles and Difficulties, and hast hitherto carried me safely through the manifold Changes and Chances of this Mortal Life. O be thou still my God and my Guide. Preserve in me always a due Sense of the instability of all worldly things: Let my Heart there be fixed, where true and Lasting Joys are to be found; and Grant I never may be unprepared for Death and Judgment.

Sanctify, I beseech thee, in particular manner, this my present Affliction; give me patience under it, and a happy Issue out of it. Let thy Fatherly Hand ever be over me; Let thy Holy Spirit ever be with me. Whilst I live, give me Grace to serve thee faithfully in the high Station in which thou hast placed me; and when I have served my Generation according to thy Will, vouchsafe me an easy Passage to everlasting Rest, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

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